

## **Crisis Intervention Team (CIT) Programs and Secure Assessment Centers**

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## **Crisis Intervention Team (CIT) Program**

- Enhances law enforcement capability to respond to situations involving individuals experiencing a mental health crisis
- Creates coalition of local stakeholders to oversee and guide the program (law enforcement, emergency dispatchers, mental health treatment providers, hospitals, advocates, etc.)
- Provides 40-hour training for law officers, enhances coordination between local criminal justice and behavioral health systems and improves access to services for individuals experiencing mental health crises

## Virginia's Crisis Intervention Teams

- Over 5,000 law enforcement officers in Virginia have been CIT trained
- 83 percent of the Commonwealth's population now lives in areas with CIT.
- 33 teams in operation in Virginia.
- 11 CIT therapeutic assessment centers ( law enforcement drop off sites) exist to serve 13 jurisdictions. A 12<sup>th</sup> is partly operational in formative stages.

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## OAG Training Grant

- \$800,000 asset forfeiture grant award from OAG
- Statewide effort to maximize CIT training capacity, coordination and support independent sustainability for local CIT programs
- Utilizing a cadre of seasoned CIT consultant trainers, the grant will allow:
  - Faculty trainers to provide 2.5-day **Train the Trainer** trainings to developing CIT programs across the state
  - Faculty trainers to provide 3-day **40 hour assisted trainings** to developing CIT programs across the state
- Funds will reimburse **10 established CIT programs** to provide 250 training slots to officers from outside jurisdictions who do not have trainings available to them
- Funds will support 4 lead CIT Mentorship Programs to provide oversight and assist the statewide effort

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## Elements of Successful CIT Programs

- Improves officer and consumer safety
- Reduces inappropriate incarceration
- Redirects individuals with mental illness from the criminal justice system to the health care system when consistent with the needs of public safety
- If extended emergency custody order bed search is needed, person is in a therapeutic environment
- Integral part of CIT is an assessment center where officers take the person in crisis for immediate mental health evaluation in a secure, therapeutic environment
  - These centers save law officers valuable time to attend to other public safety needs.

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## CIT Assessment Centers

- Physical location, not a jail, lock-up or other criminal justice venue
- Designed so an officer can take a person in crisis for access to treatment and quickly return to regular law enforcement duties
- Assessment sites serve as a therapeutic, non-criminal justice-affiliated alternative to incarceration
- Most located in separate space in hospital ER, reducing stigma, exposure, and law enforcement presence in a busy ER

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## CIT Assessment Centers Funding

2012 – 2014 Biennium Budget Action	General Fund FY 2013	General Fund FY 2014
<p>Six New Assessment Centers Added:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• FY 2012 Funding: (1) Henrico (2) New River Valley (3) Chesapeake-Portsmouth</li> <li>• FY 2013 Funding: (1) Chesterfield-Richmond (2) Arlington (3) Martinsville</li> </ul>	\$0.6M	\$1.5M
Current Proposed Budget Action	General Fund FY 2015	General Fund FY 2016
Expand availability of secure intervention team (CIT) assessment centers	\$1.8M	\$3.6M